



CLARKSON VALLEY

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION FOR
THE RESIDENTS OF CLARKSON VALLEY

December 2017

Living

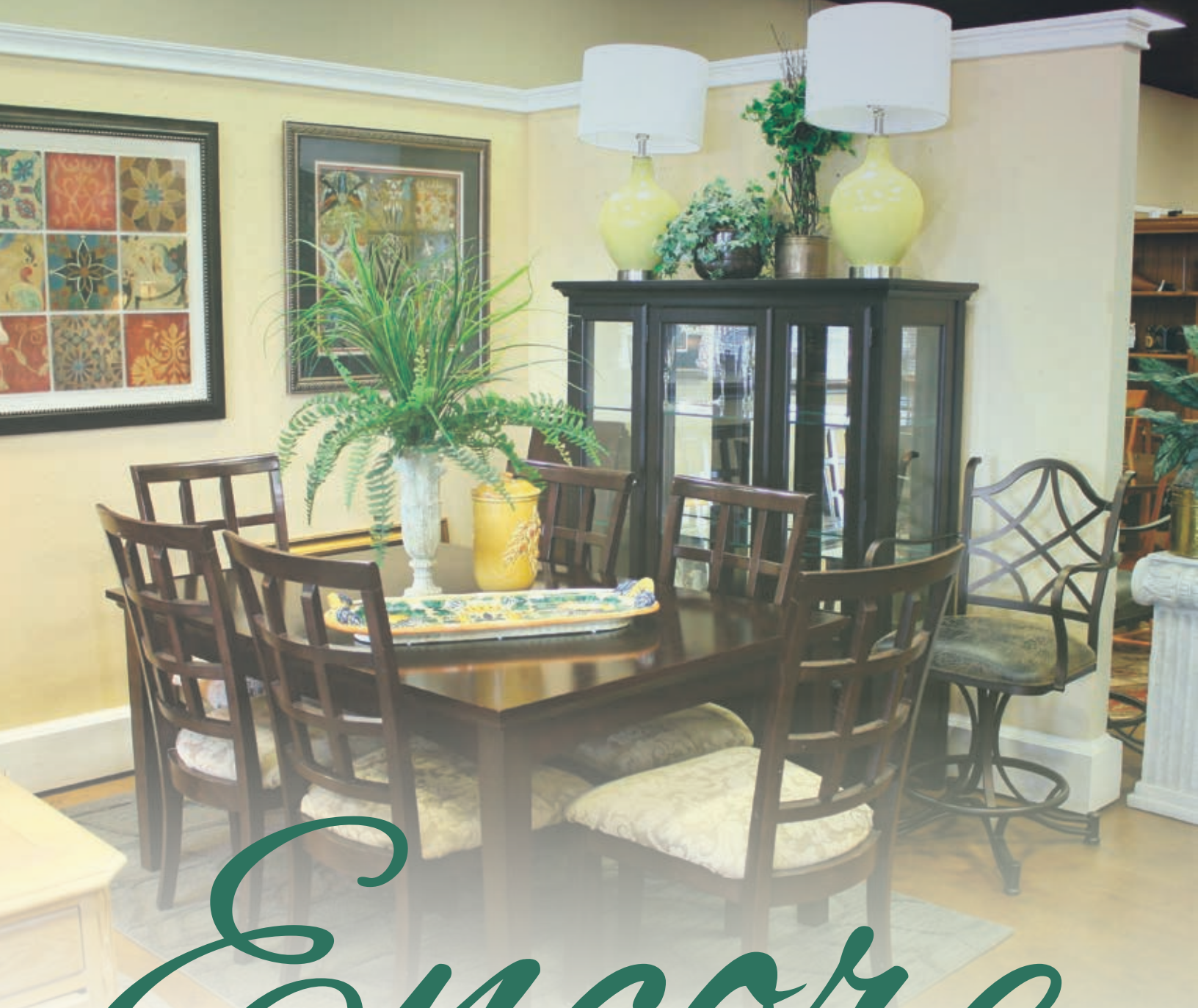


The Naddaf Family

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Make note of these new changes!

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"If a business is listed here, we have met with each owner face-to-face and determined that they are a great fit as a partner in the publication and for the community." ~ Deanna Ley, your CVL publisher



This section has been created to give you easier access when searching for a trusted neighborhood vendor to use. Take a minute to familiarize yourself with the businesses sponsoring your Clarkson Valley Living newsletter.

These local businesses are proud to partner with you and make this newsletter possible. Please support these businesses and thank them for supporting Clarkson Valley!

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Mayor Scott Douglass

Mayor's Corner Reminders

November is often referred to as the beginning of the holiday season. It seems that it comes from the fact we celebrate two national holidays in November, and then Christmas comes so quickly after Thanksgiving. The first November national holiday is Veteran's Day. This monthly publication is a salute to our veterans. I was in the Air Force during the Korean War. I never served in a combat unit, nor was I in any combat mission, so I salute those 'real' veterans with praise and a heartfelt "Thank You!" We are still the greatest country ever on this planet, and our veterans are one of the primary reasons. I believe we will and we must work through our differences as an honor to those who have served.

As I was thinking about our Veterans, the police and other first responders came to mind. Our new police (Chesterfield as of 7-1-17) remind us each month with their report 'garage doors still up' after midnight in many houses. Veterans and police share in one of their missions - SAFETY FIRST.

I looked back and found many of my previous November *Mayor's Corners*

talked about an important reminder or new safety tip. I don't know about you, but we do have fire alarms in our home, and my wife reminds me to test them more often than I do on my own. We do, on occasion (but not often), wonder about carbon monoxide, too. Frequently called the invisible killer, carbon monoxide is an invisible odorless, colorless gas created when fuels (such as gasoline, wood, coal, natural gas, propane, oil, and methane) burn incompletely. In the home, heating and cooking equipment that burn fuel can be sources of carbon monoxide. Even though called an invisible killer, there are symptoms to be aware of: a headache, dizziness, nausea. When symptoms get worse, confusion and drowsiness can lead to fast breathing, fast heartbeat, vision problems, and even seizures.

With winter coming on, and with houses being more closed up, I wanted to share a few reminders of actions to avoid carbon monoxide (CO) build up:

- If you use a generator in an emergency, be sure it's used in a well-ventilated location outdoors away from windows, doors and vent openings.
- Gas and charcoal grills can produce CO - always use these items outside.
- Make sure your vents for the dryer, furnace, stove, and fireplace are clean and clear of debris. Double check for snow after a snowstorm.
- Do not to run a vehicle or other fueled engines in the garage with the garage door closed, or even with it open. CO can leak into the house in either case.

- Make sure the exhaust pipe of a running vehicle is clear, i.e. not covered with snow.
- Have fuel-burning heating equipment including chimneys inspected by a professional every year before cold weather.
- When using your chimney, be sure the flue is open for adequate ventilation.

Hopefully, these common-sense reminders can be helpful. To better ensure, there are CO alarms. They should be installed outside each sleeping area on every level of your home. You can talk with a qualified appliance technician to discuss possible needs for your home.

Information for this article courtesy of Ameren Missouri and the National Fire Protection Association (nfpa.org/education).



Clarkson Valley Recycling Results Through October 2017

October Recycling Tonnage: 22.13
YTD Tonnage: 183.29

NOTICE OF ELECTION DECLARATION OF CANDIDACY FOR THE CITY OF CLARKSON VALLEY

A Municipal Election will be held in the City of Clarkson Valley, St. Louis County, Missouri, on Tuesday, April 3, 2018, to elect one (1) Alderperson from Ward 1, Ward 2, and Ward 3, each to serve a two (2) year term.

Declaration of Candidacy for said offices must be received by the City Clerk, Monday through Friday, during the regular business hours of 9:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. The opening date

for filing is Tuesday, December 12, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. in City Hall. The closing date for filing is Tuesday, January 16, 2018.

A candidate for Alderperson must be a resident of the ward from which elected, at least eighteen (18) years of age, a citizen of the United States and a resident of the city at the time of election for at least one (1) year preceding the election.

from me to you!

'TIS THE SEASON!

'Twas the weeks before the holidays and all through the 'hood,
Neighbors were shopping for their loved and their "good".
Teachers, bus drivers, pastors and more,
All needed gifts that they would adore.
But what should we give them each person did think,
That wouldn't be boring or quite frankly stink?
It seems every year our gifts just repeat.
This time, we want something that feels new and neat.
I know! I'll look in my neighborhood magazine...
I bet I will find something special and keen.
Restaurants, spas, home improvement and more...
The newsletter is full of ideas galore!
"And I'll be supporting local merchants," they thought...
So they turned to the Sponsor Index, and soon gifts were bought.
The neighbors then gathered to laugh and to cheer,
Wishing each other Happy Holidays and a Happy New Year!



Your Clarkson Valley Living Team

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WANT TO JOIN THE TEAM?

We are always looking for volunteers who want to be a part of making *Clarkson Valley Living* the best it can be for the community. We are looking for Resident Article Contributors and Junior Writers (kids who want to get involved!) to join the team. Email Deanna.Ley@N2Pub.com for more info!



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Teresa and Randy Hoy share a Rave Review about their daughter and new son-in-law's experience with Clarkson Valley Living business partner Travel Leaders.

"Our daughter, Amanda Jordan Hoy, was married in September to Nick Aussieker. They took it upon themselves to find a special, local travel agency to plan their honeymoon.

Having been a leisure travel consultant in my LBC (Life Before Children), I am still familiar with the travel industry. I was very impressed with the professionalism of Travel Leaders, the travel agency which they chose!

Melissa, the manager, worked closely with Amanda Jordan and Nick in planning their two-week honeymoon to Greece. Everything was perfect for them; including Travel Leader's Excursions or side trips that were purchased as gifts by friends.


These excursions were enjoyed in each of Greece's three cities: Athens, Mykonos, and Santorini, where they visited Acropolis, and were able to take a private catamaran cruise.

Nick is half Greek; which is part of the reason Greece was chosen as the couple's honeymoon destination. His only question, when leaving the Greek Isles, was, "Why did my family have to leave this beautiful place?"

Amanda Jordan and Nick were ready to get back to work, following their honeymoon, because they want to save their money to go back to Greece soon!"

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 **Have you used a CVL business partner?** If so, reach out to Deanna at Deanna.Ley@N2Pub.com and share your experience.





Merry Christmas

& Happy New Year

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Help Support Clarkson Valley's YOUNG ENTREPRENEURS!

Please reach out to the following Clarkson Valley teens if you are in need of a Helping Hand. If you have an entrepreneurial teenager who would like to be featured, please contact Clarkson Valley resident Carol Rosa at rosafab5@sbeglobal.net with their (or your) contact info, age/grade and services offered.

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CATHRYN ROSA - 16 years old, Junior
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Email: rosafab5@sbeglobal.net (mom, Carol)

meet your neighbors

Photography By **Kim Eichelberger**, Co-Owner of Eichelberger Article written by **Brian Ortballs** & Sponsored by Kehrs Mill Dental Arts



mentary. He enjoys playing soccer, hockey, biking, gaming, chess. He currently interviews people for the school newspaper, too.

Naomi attends Ellisville Elementary. She absolutely loves school! She also plays soccer. She's a really great help to mom and is very artistic. She could sit and draw and paint for hours.

Kayleigh is the shy one but is very outgoing at home. We pre-school from home. She, too, loves soccer but still has to come out of her shell a little more.

Curtis is named after the retired Blues goalie, Curtis Joseph and is nicknamed CUJO. He is so sweet and pleasant. He has been crawling for a couple months now and is so close to walking. He loves bath time and his little blue blanket. He's just the best baby ever.

The Naddaf family's photos were taken by Clarkson Valley Living's Meet Your Neighbors photographer Kim Eichelberger, who co-owns and operates Eichelberger Photography - EichPhoto.com - 636-734-1486 - KevinAndKim@EichPhoto.com



Get to know your neighbors better by having your family featured in the next available issue and receive a free photo shoot & 16x24 print from photographer, Kim Eichelberger of Eichelberger Photography. Contact Deanna at Deanna.Ley@N2Pub.com.

MEET THE NADDAFS

JONATHAN, KRISTI, BLAKE, NAOMI, KAYLEIGH, & CURTIS

We are the Naddafs. We (Jonathan and Kristi) have 4 kids - Blake (11), Naomi (6), Kayleigh (4), and Curtis (9 months)

We are all from St. Louis. Jon has lived in Forest Hills for 17 years and is the owner of Masterpiece Masonry. He's been in business for 8 years and is proud to be a Clarkson Valley Living business partner for over 2 years.

Jon and Kristi originally met in middle school and reconnected through work. Jon does all the masonry work, bidding and estimating. Kristi is the secretary of the company. As a team, we provide "Timeless Stone and Brick Masonry".

Family Favorites

We love anything outdoors.

We are HUGE hockey fans. LETS GO BLUES!!

We don't vacation away much because of the busy schedule, Jon is the sole mason in the company, but a tradition is a quick get-away around Christmas.

We don't eat out often, but Annie Gunn's is always a fave go to. Kristi enjoys cooking and the whole family has little complaints.

Blake attends Crestview Middle School. He is new to the district because he attended Kennard Classical Junior Academy for ele-

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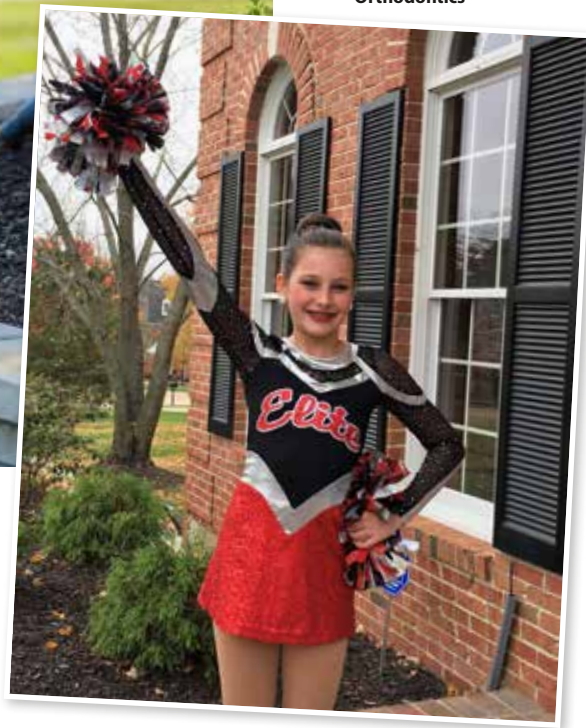
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meet Lauren



athlete of the month

Sponsored by RIES Orthodontics



This month, we get to know 12-year-old Crestview Middle Schooler Lauren. She is on the RJ Elite Pom Team at Renee Johnson's Dance Studio and has a lot of other hobbies and interests, too.

What honors or awards have you won?

Our team went to Branson in the summer for UDA camp where we qualified to go to Nationals in Orlando/Disney. I am new to the team this year, and there haven't been any awards yet, but we hope to do well at Nationals this February!

What do you like most about your sport?

That we become very close, like a second family. And that it's a very fast-paced form of dance, which is fun.

What has been your favorite moment so far?

Going away to UDA camp in Branson with the whole team where we learned new dances, performed them, and tried out for Nationals. It was a fun bonding experience for the team, plus we met many new people from other teams.

Do you have any other interests or hobbies?

I play soccer for Ascension, tennis at Forest Hills Country Club, cheer in the Jr. Cheer program for the Marquette Mustangs, and I take piano lessons which include performing at competitions. Actually, I just got home from a state piano competition in Warrensburg, MO, where I was given the highest rating possible. My favorite subject in school is Language Arts.

Do you have any advice for the younger children in the neighborhood?

Yes! Never give up, even if something feels impossible.

Do you have any plans for college and what you plan to do after graduating?

To take veterinary classes and after graduating, I would like to become a veterinary radiologist.



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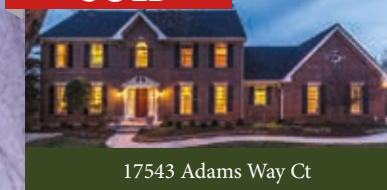
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Coffee Break



Sudoku

				7				
				1				
5			8	6	3	4	7	
	3		9			7		
	8		7				9	1
9		5	1			6	8	
	5			7	4	1	6	3
2	6				9	5	4	
				5		2		

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusive.

Do you know these Historic Dates in December!

- Q1:** December 26, 1620, the Pilgrims disembarked from the Mayflower and established the first New England colony. The voyage was originally intended for two ships. What was the name of the ship that never made it?
- Q2:** December 16, 1773, Boston, some folks are about to have a party. What were the architects of the 'Boston Tea Party' disguised as?
- Q3:** December 17, 1903, saw the Wright brothers' historic first flight, near Kitty Hawk, North Carolina. What type of business did Wilbur and Orville own back in Dayton, Ohio?
- Q4:** The Japanese attack on Pearl Harbour, on December 7, 1941, hastened the U.S.A.'s entry into the Second World War. Which of these ships was NOT sunk by that attack?
- Q5:** Which great comic died on Christmas Day?
- Q6:** Who conceded one of the closest presidential elections in U.S. history, on December 13, 2000?
- Q7:** December 8, 1980, will always be remembered as the day a lunatic murdered John Lennon. What is the name of the great musician's killer?

Business Beat

Sponsored by John Lancia - Weiss Insurance



This month, we get to know resident Dr. Emily Hecker and her business **Enlighten Functional Medicine**. We hope you enjoy her interview. What she does is fascinating and so needed!



How long have you lived in the neighborhood? Tell us about your family. My husband, Bryan and I, along with our two sons Max (6) and Leo (4), and our two terriers have lived in Westhampton for eight years. I am a Chiropractic Physician practicing Functional Medicine at my private practice in Ballwin.

What is your business? Why did you start it? Functional Medicine has been my passion for 10 years. Functional medicine gets to the root cause of many health symptoms using diagnostic tests, detailed clinical history and creates a plan for the patient using nutrition, supplements and lifestyle changes. I opened Enlighten Functional Medicine a few years ago. I found the perfect place that allows me to function as a working mom by being close to school and close to home. My practice is located at the Barn of Lucerne in Ballwin.

What is unique about your business? What sets you apart? I love spending time with my patients and listening to their story. In the western medical model, insurance dictates how long physicians spend with their patients. In my model, I look at my patients' story as an intricate timeline that needs to be carefully dissected, and that takes time. I honor that time. I support debilitating chronic health issues, to the emotional struggle of being a mom and just wanting to lose that baby weight and getting energy back. These before and after pics are of myself after being able to understand the right kinds of foods to eat and in what quantity.

My specialties include those diagnosed with the genetic mutation MTHFR, hormones, autoimmune diseases and weight loss; while supporting my patients with anti-inflammatory nutrition and supplementation.

Given your business expertise and the nature of what you do, what advice can you offer to the residents of your neighborhood? If you want to gain energy, clear brain fog or even lose some unwanted, inflammatory fat; you have to know what you are putting in your mouth. I challenge you to track your food intake (I recommend the free app MyFitnessPal) to see how much sugar you are consuming on a daily basis and cut it in half. You will be amazed how even this small change will improve your inflammation and health.



What else should we know about you or your business?

In addition to office appointments, I offer video appointments which make it easy to check in on lunch breaks. I invite those exploring the avenue of functional medicine to set up a complimentary 10 minutes meet-and-greet with me.



Business Contact Information:
DR. EMILY HECKER
 Enlighten Functional Medicine
www.EnlightenSTL.com
 636-812-3800
Support@EnlightenSTL.com
 930 Kehrs Mill Rd, Suite 325-2
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Sleigh Time!

Spot the difference! There are 8 differences between these photos. Can you spot them?

Answers to all these puzzles can be found elsewhere in this issue

Happy Holidays!



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precious pets

Article written by Parker with a little help from his human dad and from Kristy Howard & Sponsored by English Sweep

Meet Parker Sperandio of Dunhill



Hi! My name is Parker, and I am a full-sized female Collie. I am so happy that I've lived in Clarkson Valley since I was a puppy! My human dad really wanted to have me, and, lucky for me, convinced my human mom to adopt me! On the day I was to go to my forever home, there was a bad storm and I feared my new parents wouldn't come get me because the main highway by me was flooded. I was so scared! They showed up and I was OVERJOYED! They risked life and limb (maybe I am over exaggerating a bit!) to make it to me, using back roads to avoid the flooding.

When I was a wee baby, my 'REAL' mommy (my breeder) would travel with me halfway (to the Columbia area) to visit my 'SOON-TO-BE' Mommy and Daddy. This would give us some time to get to know each other. I then would go back to my first home, and continue to grow until I was old enough to move to Clarkson Valley.

I heard Dad and Mom talking that they wanted my name to be 'unique' and fitting for my personality. They both liked the name "Parker". Of course, now they say that "I'm unique all right" ... what does that mean? I'm the only "child" in the family, but when they don't think I am listening, I hear my Mom and Dad talking about what a handful I am. I think that is a good thing, yes?

Since I am only 2 and "green behind the ears" I have been trying to do new tricks (2 of them) that more mature dogs can do. One is where I hold a small round ball in my mouth while, at the same time, kicking around a larger ball on the floor. I have also found the grandchildren's' walk-behind musical toy. I have figured out how to make it play music by pushing different keys with my nose and paws. I love this new toy! My parents tell me it is not mine, and that it belongs to the grandchildren when they visit. But, we shall see; I am pretty sure I am their favorite!

Oh, and **I LOVE DONUTS!!!** Each morning, Dad has one with coffee, and sneaks me a piece when Mom is not looking! I also have found that if I stand in front of them when they are sitting and place my paw on their knee, I can get pretty much anything! What a life!



Do you have a pet and would like to share his/her story? Dogs, cats, horses, fish and any other types of animals are welcome! Email Deanna at Deanna.Ley@N2Pub.com to have them featured in an upcoming issue.

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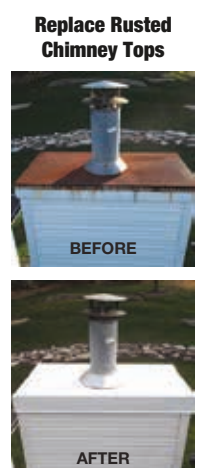
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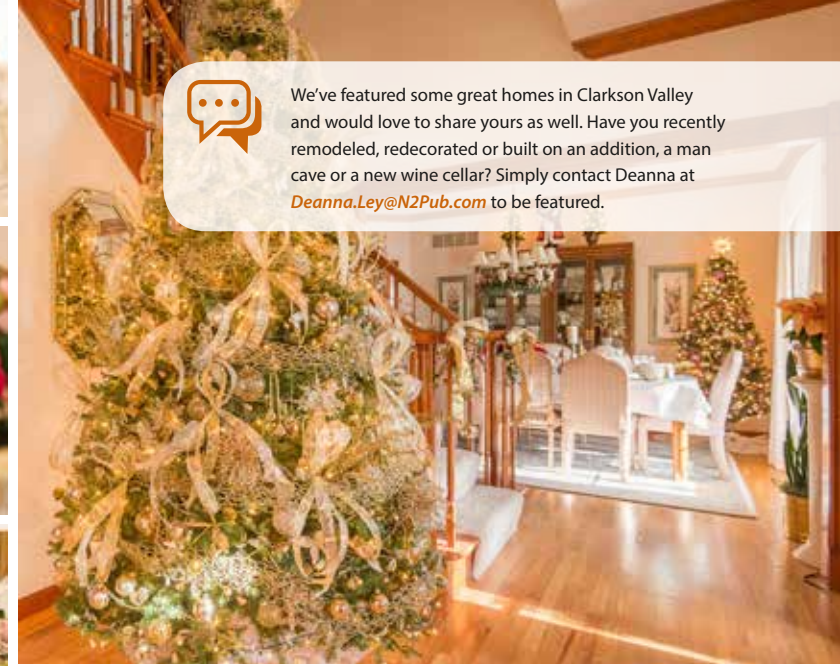
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We've featured some great homes in Clarkson Valley and would love to share yours as well. Have you recently remodeled, redecorated or built on an addition, a man cave or a new wine cellar? Simply contact Deanna at Deanna.Ley@N2Pub.com to be featured.



"The Twelve Trees of Christmas" at the Ahrens'



living spaces

Photography By Kim Eichelberger, Co-Owner Of Eichelberger Photography
Article written by Kathy Ahrens & Sponsored by DiPasquale Painting

My husband Artie and I (Kathy) live in Kehrsmill Estates West where we have resided for the past 25 years. Our 27-year-old son, Michael, lives in Beaumont, TX, with his wife, Trish. Artie and I are known "around town" for our Christmas trees...12 of them, to be exact! You could say we have a mini-forest in our home at the holidays! We love Christmas and all the festive decorations surrounding it.

When we first moved into our home we had one Christmas tree. Then Artie said, "Why don't we put one up in the family room?" Things snowballed from there and each year we added a new tree to another room. Most of our trees have a theme, but we have one that is our "memory tree" consisting of meaningful family ornaments.

Each family member receives an ornament that relates to something that happened during the year. Our son now has a beautiful memory tree that he and his wife can continue to add new ornaments to. When Artie and I travel we make a point to find an ornament that commemorates our various trips. The memory tree is my favorite, but the white and gold one in the foyer is a close second.



It takes me 9 full days to put up all the trees, and I start right after Thanksgiving. We dedicate a large portion of our basement to store all our Christmas decorations and trees. Artie helps put the trees up, but I do the finishing touches. My friends question why I would go to all that work but, for me, it is not a chore. I find it fun, and it brings me joy! We have enough trees for now, but each year they evolve with new ornaments, bows, etc.

The best part is just sitting and enjoying them. The worst part is they are only up for a short amount of time!!!



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NEIGHBOR NIGHT OUT n2 event
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In October, Clarkson Valley residents and CVL business partners gathered at Chuck and Carrie Burggraf's beautiful Westhampton home for a fun Neighbor Night Out.

The event was sponsored by your Clarkson Valley Living business partner Accelerated Wealth. Everyone had a delightful evening of wonderful conversations, and a lot of laughs while enjoying wonderful food from Annie Gunn's (thanks, Accelerated Wealth) and Walnut Grill, as well as a lot of fun door prizes donated from our business partners (Accelerated Wealth, Travel Leaders, Eichelberger Photography, and Massage Envy).

A special thank you to Carrie and Chuck for hosting the fun evening and for opening up your home.

If you would like to host the next Neighbor Night Out, contact me at Deanna.Ley@N2Pub.com, and we can coordinate schedules.

 Clarkson Valley Living events are a blast! Want to be on our invite list for upcoming events? Simply email Deanna at Deanna.Ley@N2Pub.com.





Our Pilgrimage to the Camino de Santiago

River in city of San Sabastian



Monuments in San Sabastian



Pinchos in San Sabastian



beach in San Sabastian



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travel tales

Article written by Theresa Karutz &
Sponsored by Allen Roofing & Siding

My husband Peter and I reside on Kehrsgrrove Dr. in Dunhill. We ventured on a pilgrimage to the Camino de Santiago for our 25th Wedding Anniversary. We wanted to embark upon something memorable centered around spiritual renewal as well as physical activity in lieu of laying sedentary on a sandy beach and ingesting a lot of calories. Having seen the movie "The Way," starring Martin Sheen who hiked the Camino, prompted our interest to attempt this challenge.

The Camino de Santiago begins in the countries of Portugal, France and Spain. So, on June 1st we flew to Spain and began what is called, "The French Way" since it is the most popular path for most "pilgrims." Besides the popularity of this route we would be able to bike the Camino which sounded better for the knee replacement that I had last summer! We planned to ride for the first 3 days on the Camino which consisted of 100 miles total, beginning in the city of O Cebreiero, Spain. Unfortunately, very few miles contain the flat plateau like our Katy Trail, but instead, have many arduous hills of aggregate and potholes! The Camino was a dirt bike venture riding at times next to pastures of cows through mid-century towns and small cities as well as having to maneu-

ver around the hikers who were saddled down on their journeys with high backpacks and walking sticks.

We experienced a bit of anguish when the tire on Peter's bike went flat twice leaving us with no spare tube for the second day of our Camino, 20 miles into the trip. After convincing the Camino Ways company that I opted not to ride alone having to rely solely on the yellow shell and arrow signs to find my way to the hotel, we luckily were picked up in a van and delivered to our hotel.

Day three on the Camino was not as strenuous a ride and the tire made it the 30 miles of our trip that day! The rain began ¾ of the way into Santiago but we were determined to make it to the "Catedral de Santiago", the cathedral known to contain the bones of St. James, the first of the 12 disciples to have been martyred for his faith. What a beautiful dense and historically religious city to see after our 100-mile bike trip to Santiago! It was hilly and very picturesque full of Romanesque architecture!

The next day we rented a car and drove the coast to the city of San Sabastian for 4 nights to rest and enjoy some paella and traditional pinchos, which are the basque form of Spanish tapas.

After training a bit more, Peter and I would love to embark on the Camino again but next time would like to spend a complete day in each of the cities that we bike to, in order to relish the history there and rest our achy bones in between. The Camino was certainly a test of endurance for us!



Have you taken a vacation you'd like to share with your Clarkson Valley neighbors? We'd love to hear all about it! Email Deanna.Ley@N2Pub.com to have your Tale included in an upcoming issue of Clarkson Valley Living. Email Deanna at Deanna.Ley@N2Pub.com

resident recipe

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The Taste of St. Louis Gets the BEST GUEST JUDGE EVER in Resident Carol Schwartz

"You WON!" is always a great way to start your day. It's my birthday weekend and Deanna Ley, the publisher of *Clarkson Valley Living*, gives me the news that I was selected to be a judge at The Taste of Saint Louis Chef Battle Royale Culinary Competition.


It starts off a bit intimidating to be the only female seated at the judging table with local, renowned chefs in their crisp, monogrammed chef shirts. I hold my own though during the brief interviews and share the importance of presentation to one's dining experience.

But guess what the main ingredient the competing chefs are to use? TOFU! Oh, but wait, there's a "surprise" ingredient ... maybe it will be amazing! It's super hot 314 Hot Sauce! (I'm not a fan of spicy). Oh well, life is about new experiences after all.

The two competing chefs are polar opposite: one rough and "biker-esque", and the other one slight & exacting. Both dishes were outstanding despite my non-preferred ingredients. One was southern-fried with waffles presented on a skillet with skull serveware, and the other one was Asian influenced on contemporary serveware.

I was one over by the unique presentation and unpretentious talent of the chef in tattoos and jeans, but I was out-voted by the rest of the judges. Although my choice did not win, I had a great time!

I plan to visit chef David Sandusky (my choice of winner) at Beast Craft BBQ in Belleville someday - maybe for my next birthday!

 **Would you like to have a favorite family recipe featured in Clarkson Valley Living?** Simply email Deanna at Deanna.Ley@N2Pub.com to have your recipe featured in the next available issue.

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5	2	1	8	6	3	4	7	9
1	3	6	9	4	8	7	5	2
4	8	2	7	5	6	3	9	1
9	7	5	1	3	2	6	8	4
8	5	9	2	7	4	1	6	3
2	6	7	3	1	9	5	4	8
3	1	4	6	8	5	9	2	7



- A1:** The Speedwell. The Speedwell was found to be unseaworthy and the Mayflower made her voyage into history alone.
- A2:** Native Americans. Some 342 tea chests were aboard the ships, most if not all of the contents ended up in the harbour.
- A3:** A bicycle repairshop and factory. History was made at Kill Devil Hills near Kitty Hawk.
- A4:** The USS Phoenix. The USS Phoenix went on to have a distinguished battle record in WWII. It was sold to Argentina and renamed The General Belgrano. It was sunk by a British nuclear powered submarine during the Falklands War.
- A5:** Charlie Chaplin. Sir Charles Chaplin died on December 25, 1977 at his home in Switzerland.
- A6:** Al Gore. After much counting and re-counting of votes, particularly in the state of Florida, Mr. Gore finally and graciously accepted defeat.
- A7:** Mark David Chapman. Chapman was apparently obsessed with the classic novel, 'Catcher in the Rye'.

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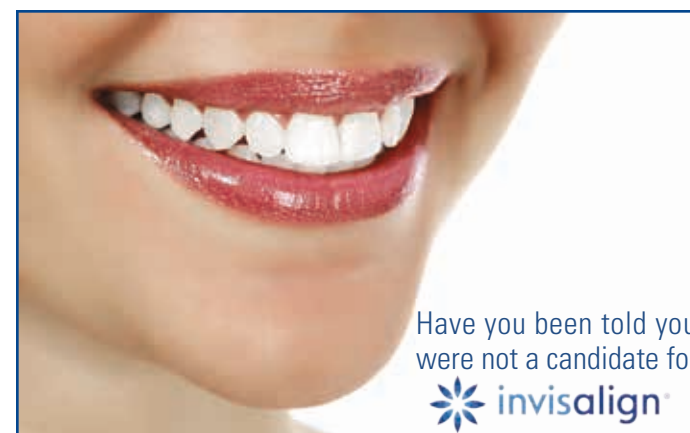
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Jeff Serafin, Kathy Matthes, and Jeff's daughters, Abbey (20), and Alyssa (17) moved into their new home on Dunhill Way Court 2.5 years ago. They were attracted to this neighborhood because of the beautiful large wooded lots and the peace and quiet that surround the home. Their outdoor oasis is special because it is a space they love to share with family and friends, offering privacy where they can entertain and relax as well.

The pool and water features were already in place when they purchased the home. They tailored some of the landscaping to give it their own personal touch by adding vibrant color and a mixture of new perennials along with annuals to give it a tropical resort feel.

They look forward to enjoying it for many years to come!



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Article written by Rowan
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Hello, friends and fellow Clarkson Valley neighbors! My name is Rowan. I am 11 years old and I moved to Clarkson Valley when I was two. I am in the 6th grade and our family is moving to Nashville the fall. I would like to go to MIT after high school.

I play soccer and baseball. Some activities I am involved in are drums, piano, and violin. I love to program, build robotics, and create PowerPoint presentations, and cook in my free time. I have been playing baseball and soccer since I was four years old. I got my passion for coding in 3rd grade at the Center for Creative Learning. I am good at coding because I can memorize lots of things.

I also enjoy spending time with my family. We enjoy going to Cardinals games and going to the zoo, the Science Center, and going fishing. My whole family is important to me. My mom and dad are special to me because they have always taught me that even if something is hard, don't give up and keep trying until it is done, and they have always encouraged me to follow my dreams. My sister is always there for me and my little brother always looks up to me.

I am motivated to be a good role model and do what is right because of my loving family.



Hey, kids – do you want to be the superstar of the neighborhood?
Do you want to share with the neighborhood any and all things that are important to kids your age? All you have to do is ask your parents to email Deanna at Deanna.Ley@N2Pub.com.



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For the holiday edition of Clarkson Valley Living, I'd like to introduce you to your local giant, Christmas-

obsessed elf. He's 4 inches taller than the most well-known elf, but smiling's HIS favorite TOO, and he makes the world's BEST cup of coffee. As an elf, this guy likes to try to stick to the four main food groups: candy, candy canes, candy corns, and syrup. (This makes his healthy elf-y wife insane, but at least she's got him using real maple syrup.)

You'll see this elf decking out his house for Christmas even before Thanksgiving, and he even has Santa come RIGHT HERE to our neighborhood every year for a visit! (It's open to the public and YOU'RE INVITED! This year Jolly Old Santa Claus will be making his annual stop on Saturday, December 16 from 9:00am until noon. Keep reading to discover exactly WHERE you can meet Santa, tell him what you want for Christmas, and score a delicious free holiday breakfast consisting of but not limited to the world's best coffee (made by yours truly), the world's BEST DONUTS (do I even have to say it?! DONUT PALACE, of course!), and the world's best hot chocolate.)

In addition to being a CV Living sponsor, this elf lives right here in Clarkson Valley with his elfywife and his 4 rapidly-growing elvchildren and 2 cute elvogs (a pug and a golden retriever). Each year, they trash their kitchen and make countless frosted sugar cookies, which is still not enough to last the elf through



the New Year. Neighbor Jim Mullen even told me (off the record) that he heard the elf saying to his kids last Christmas vacation: "I planned out our whole day. First, we'll make snow angels for two hours, then we'll go ice skating, then we'll eat a whole roll of Tollhouse cookie dough as fast as we can!"

He's serious about Christmas, which is why SANTA CLAUS comes to his office every year. You have to be PRETTY SPECIAL to get an annual visit from Kris Kringle, you know!

Elving is a seasonal job for this guy. He was born and raised in St. Louis, Missouri. He graduated from St. Louis University High School in 1997 and

went on to accept a basketball scholarship from Northern Illinois University, where he earned his degree in Biology. Due to the high incidence of tooth decay at the North Pole, this elf earned his Doctor of Medical Dentistry degree from Southern Illinois University. (Also to be noted: the elves have historically crooked teeth, which bothers them tremendously since they all love smiling so much.) He then completed his 2-year advanced Orthodontic Residency at the University of Nevada in Las Vegas.

Needless to say, the day he graduated as an orthodontist, he became famous among the elves, and this time not solely for his 6'7" giant-elf status. This elf/giant is a member of



the American Association of Orthodontists (Thankfully this fine establishment doesn't discriminate against elves.) This mystery elf is a talented orthodontist by day with a strong commitment to compassionate patient care. "He says "My patients are my top priority, and I pride myself on delivering personalized, big, beautiful smiles in a warm and inviting atmosphere." This orthodontist's patients will tell you he takes the time to get to know each family and treats each child as if he were treating one of his own kids. He continues, "I only do what is necessary and best for each patient. I tell the parent(s) at the consultation what I would recommend for treatment if this were my son or daughter."

This Christmas-loving Orthodontist is none other than Dr. Charlie Ries. If you don't already know him or want to fact-check his giant elf status in person, you can visit him at his office (where he offers free orthodontic consultations for those smiley people in need of braces or Invisalign!). The office is located right around the corner at the Clayton/Clarkson intersection between the library and Crestview Middle School. The address at Ries Orthodontics is 333 Ozark Trail Drive, Suite 100, Ellisville. The office phone number is 636-230-6100. This is also the (formerly undisclosed) location where you can join your friendly West County neighbors in seeing Santa on December 16th!

(Have a blessed holiday season if we don't see you at our office for Breakfast with Santa!)



Do you know any amazing businesses that would be great partners for this publication? We are always looking for referrals! Please contact Deanna at Deanna.Ley@N2Pub.com.



N2 PUBLISHING METRO-WIDE BUSINESS-TO-BUSINESS NETWORKING EVENT



A great time was had by all at our 4th annual St. Louis networking event last month. We invited all our N2 neighborhoods and business partners, and with over 100 people in attendance, it was a huge success.



We'd like to thank Jenn Meyers with Jen Takes Pictures for being our photographer for the night. We'd also like to thank all our door prize sponsors:

- Chris Ley with Your Rideshare Guy* - 8 hours of private care service
- Eileen Lambert with Oasis Senior Advisors* - gift basket
- Colleen Lawler with the Irvine Team* - bottle of wine
- Sharon Balleau with Transitions for Senior Living* - gift basket
- David Mitchem with St Louis Sun Tan* - (10) 1 month Redlight Therapy
- Page DeGraaff with Pure Barre* - month of free classes
- Jim & Diane Mason with The Cruise & Travel Planners* - bottle of wine
- Jeff Weiss with American Family* - gift basket
- Terry Pickens with Tide Dry Cleaners* - gift basket filled with Procter & Gamble products
- Kim Rochetti & Sue Benefield with Juice Plus* - smoothie shaker bottle with protein shake samples
- Tish Kirchhoefer with Picture Perfect Design* - Holiday Pillow
- Jessie Curgas with Weld Made Art* - metal art



Last but not least, a huge thank you to our host, Ambassador Floor Company. They opened their doors to our group of over 100 people and provided some amazing hors-d'oeuvres, beer and wine. We interviewed the President, Kelly Taylor, and here's his story:

"On a hot Saturday in August of 1985, my brother Paul and I helped my father move some used desks and office furniture into a little warehouse off of Prichard Farm Road in Maryland Heights. (It was near Riverport Amphitheatre - now the Hollywood Casino Amphitheatre.) This little out-of-the-way hole-in-the-wall was going to be the first office of Ambassador Floor Company.

The day after Labor Day - Tuesday, September 3, 1985 - was Ambassador Floor Company's first day of business. It started with second-hand furniture in a small warehouse on a back road that flooded during heavy rains. It was a humble beginning.

Thirty-five years later, we're still building on the company my father started in 1985. Ambassador and I personally have called Chesterfield home since 1997. 1997 is also the year I became president of Ambassador and my father started to take a backseat in the day-to-day business.



I personally have lived in four different homes in Chesterfield. I currently call the Highlands at Wildhorse home. My 3 children have all attended Chesterfield Elementary School and my oldest graduated from Lafayette High school.

Over the past ten years, we've done business out of a modern 50,000-square-foot building in the Chesterfield Valley. Computers have replaced calculators; solar panels supply power, and we have the most beautiful showroom in St. Louis.

Over the past five years, we've put flooring in nearly half of all the new homes built in St. Louis. Also, in the past 5 years, we have opened our showroom to the public, offering the largest selection of floor covering to the St. Louis market, specifically the neighborhoods in Chesterfield. We've installed flooring in local schools, hospitals, and office buildings. We've earned enough to support our families, pay our taxes and contribute to dozens of St. Louis charities.

More important than bricks and mortar, we have the most professional, hard-working group of people in the flooring business. I could not be prouder of the company my father began and the company we are today.

I speak for both Bob Taylor and myself when I say "Thank you" to our suppliers, employees, and customers for thirty-five great years."

KELLY TAYLOR, President
Ambassador Floor Company



Our events are a blast! Want to be on our invite list for upcoming events? Simply email Deanna at Deanna.Ley@N2Pub.com.



CLARKSON VALLEY *Resident Business Guide* Living

Attention Clarkson Valley Residents: Do you own or run a business? To have your business featured in the resident business guide in an upcoming issue of *Clarkson Valley Living*, please send an email to Deanna.Ley@N2Pub.com. This is open to the residents of Clarkson Valley only.

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13 Jennycliffe Ln.	Forest Hills	\$850,000	\$838,000	8/24/17	5	7	-	3
1606 Broken Reins Ct.	Kehrs Mill Trails	\$729,900	\$715,000	9/29/17	5	5	2936	3
1874 Kehrswood Dr.	Kehrswood	\$689,500	\$675,000	7/31/17	5	6	3614	3
15 Crown Manor Dr.	Forest Hills	\$675,000	\$660,000	9/20/17	4	4	3244	3
2112 Wilson Ridge Ln.	Manors at Clarkson Valley	\$659,000	\$659,000	9/25/17	5	5	3434	3
2100 Kehrs Mill Rd.	Kehrswood	\$720,000	\$652,500	9/28/17	5	7	3821	3
16640 Kehrsgrrove Dr.	Dunhill Farm	\$649,900	\$635,000	9/15/17	4	6	5636	3
2634 Valley Rd.	Golfview	\$625,000	\$600,000	9/15/17	4	4	3280	2
2067 Kehrs Mill Rd.	Kehrs Mill Estates	\$609,900	\$590,000	8/30/17	4	4	2750	3
22 Chippenham Ln.	Forest Hills	\$598,750	\$575,000	9/28/17	5	3	2494	2
7 Greenbank Dr.	Forest Hills	\$625,000	\$570,000	7/6/17	5	4	2815	3
2138 Kehrs Mill Rd.	Kehrswood	\$599,900	\$565,000	10/6/17	5	6	3528	3
1453 Blue Roan Ct.	Kehrs Mill Trails	\$550,000	\$548,000	7/26/17	4	4	3548	3
16430 Horseshoe Ridge Rd.	Kehrs Mill Trails	\$549,000	\$525,000	8/11/17	5	4.5	3647	2

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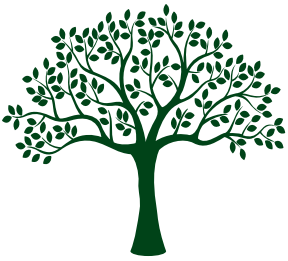
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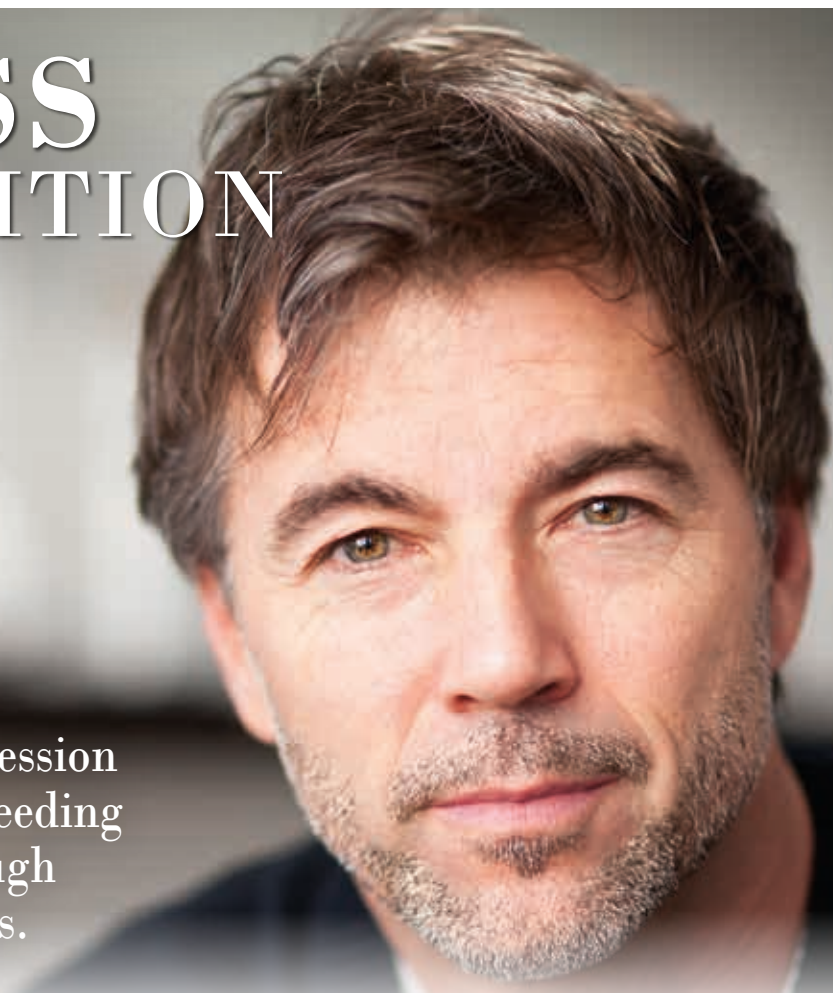


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